

## Indiana Works Council – Region 2

Meeting: February 4, 2014

Location: Plymouth Community Schools – Weidner School of Inquiry (grades 9-12)

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Member present: Brad Bishop, Chairman, Dan Tyree, Plymouth Community Schools, Terry Lee, Fulton County Economic Development, Suzanne Wheeler, Ray Patnaude, Hubbell Electrical Products, Dave Behren, Complexus Medical, Sara Rice, Ivy Tech – Director, Early College, and Bill Kovach, Elkhart Area Career Center.

Also present: Greg Vollmer, President NIWIB and DanClark, EducationRoundtable/CECI

B. Bishop opened the meeting. Dan Clark, CECI, gave an overview of the CECI both from a state perspective, (Career Council) and from the regional perspective (Indiana Works Councils). He indicated that a strategic plan is to be developed by each Works Council and by the Career Council itself. The goal is to determine how education can be better aligned with workforce development. After July 1<sup>st</sup>, the Career Council will release their state strategic plan. The Works Councils may write their own.

D. Clark indicated that there will be \$4.5 million on July 1, 2014, for Career and Technical Education and to support alternative CTE. This money can be spent on equipment/machinery, time and expertise. There will be a private match required (private being anything that is not state funded). The ratio has not yet been determined. The application deadline is April 30<sup>th</sup> for the first round of funding. There will be a second round of applications in September, 2014.

B. Bishop picked up with the presentation entitled “Region 2 Works Council – CTE Pathways for high/value/high demand employment verticals”. Discussion ensued with regard to Assumptions:

- Focus is on pathways in Career Tech Education (CTE) in high value/high demand job categories; unskilled, low pay job categories are not the focus of the Region Works Councils.
- The following are ‘strawmen’ and are presented as a model for further work; each county will be responsible for building out their own construct. (Kosciusko is currently the most ‘built out’.
- Each county will need to engage Economic Development officials, employers, school corporation Career Centers, Adult Education Partners, Ivy Tech, and others to create and maintain seamless CTE pathways.
- While we are a region, primary industries and workforces vary greatly by county – initial creation of pathways will be by county and we will consolidate regionally where there are overlaps and opportunities for operational efficiencies.

## **ROLE OF REGIONAL WORKS COUNCIL:**

- Maintain regional data and record of pathways
- Evaluate implementation across region
- Create and keep “scorecard” regarding outputs (students who qualify and enter high value/high demand jobs)
- Identify and advocate for necessary policy and legislative changes to enable best function of Career Technical Education pathways.

Best practices were discussed. SMART in St. Joseph County, is currently funded by the City of South Bend, City of Mishawaka, WorkOne, and Ivy Tech and was developed based upon the Lafayette Indiana model. This project is supported by a group of manufacturing companies which include Sibley Machine, Allied Specialty Products, Unifrax, Schaefer Gear, Damon Products, Bertrand Products, and Federal Mogul. There are additional companies who are supporting the program. The training is based upon the MSSC Certified Production Technician Certification.

In order to begin addressing the issues in each county, the group created county ‘teams’ consisting of members representing each county. St. Joseph County – Suzanne Wheeler, Dave Behren, Ray Patnaude, Larry Garatoni; Fulton County – Terry Lee; Marshall County – Dan Tyree; Elkhart County – Bill Kovach and Sara Rice and Kosciusko County – Brad Bishop. Those members who were not present will be added according to the county they are in. Each group is to begin meeting with economic development and other organizations as stated above in “Assumptions” to:

- Target five high value/high demand “verticals” –job categories that require similar preparation for success
- “Elements for a Productive Pathway” form our recommended courses/programs for seamless pathways that lead to targeted jobs
- Each of these county models is a “draft”; verticals and courses/programs will need verified/corrected at the county level
- Think first about what your county’s needs are

The next meeting was not scheduled, but will be handled by conference call. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Suzanne Wheeler